

BOROUGH OF MARGATE.



# ANNUAL REPORT

for 1925,

ON THE

## Health of Margate

Vital Statistics and Sanitary Work.

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BY THE

Medical Officer of Health :

ROWAN McCOMBE.

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IN WHICH IS INCLUDED THE

Report of the Sanitary Inspector

AND THE

Meteorological Report.

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Margate :

Lane, Gentry & Co. Ltd.

Wellclose Square.

1926.

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# **BOROUGH OF MARGATE.**

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# **Annual Report OF THE Medical Officer of Health FOR THE YEAR 1925.**

# BOROUGH OF MARGATE.

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## **Mayor:**

OUNCILLOR THOMAS DANIEL WOOD.

## **Health Committee:**

ALDERMAN HOUGHTON	COUNCILLOR GUNNIS.
(Chairman).	GOODBAN.
"    HUGHES.	BAKER.
"    SHEA.	BENTON.
COUNCILLOR HATFIELD.	EDWARDS.
"    PETTMAN.	

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**Town Clerk:** ... ... EDWARD BROOKE.

**Borough Surveyor:** ... ... E. A. BORG.

**Public Analyst:** ERNEST M. HAWKINS, F.I.C., Canterbury.

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## **Staff of the Health Department:**

*Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer,  
and Borough Meteorologist—*

ROWAN McCOMBE, F.R.C.S.I., D.P.H.

*Chief Sanitary Inspector—*

JOHN RATTRAY, A.R.San.Inst. and  
Certified Inspector of Meat, &c.

*Assistant Sanitary Inspectors—*

J. W. BROMLEY, Cert.R.San.Inst. and  
Cert. Inspector of Meat, &c.

MRS. H. FOWLER, A.R.S.I.

*Health Visitor—*

MISS E. GREEN.

*Clerk—*

L. R. HUTCHINSON.

*Disinfecto—*

W. EPPS,



*To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors  
of the Borough of Margate.*

MR. MAYOR, MRS. HATFEILD AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting to you the Annual Report on the health of the Borough for the year ending 31st December, 1925.

The report this year is what is known as the Survey Report which has to be presented to the Council and Ministry of Health every five years. It is therefore of a more comprehensive and descriptive character and will, I hope, prove of interest to the Council and Burgesses.

I gratefully acknowledge the kind assistance accorded me at all times by the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee also by my professional colleagues in the Town, the Chief Sanitary Inspector, Assistant Sanitary Inspectors, Health Visitor, and Clerk, without which it would be impossible to carry out my duties satisfactorily.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Mrs. Hatfeild and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ROWAN McCOMBE.

*Medical Officer of Health.*

April 1926.

## General Statistics.

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Area (acres), 2,961.

Population (1925) 28,080.

Number of inhabited houses (1921), 5,159.

Number of families or separate occupiers (1921), 5,888.

Rateable value, £319,913.

Sum represented by a penny rate, £1,325.

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Births: Legitimate—total, 415: male, 226; female, 189.

Illegitimate—total, 26: male, 17; female, 9.

Deaths: Total, 304; male, 150; female, 154.

Birth rate (R.G.), 15.7 per 1,000.

Death rate (R.G.), 10.8 per 1,000.

Number of Women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth—  
from Sepsis, 1; from other causes, 2.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 births—  
legitimate, 50; illegitimate, 38.5; total 40.8.

Deaths from Measles (all ages), nil.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages), 1.

Deaths from Diarrhœa (under two years of age), 2.

**Deaths of "Residents" in Margate, whether  
occurring in or beyond the District.**

CIVILIANS ONLY.

	Causes of Death.					Males	Females
1	Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—
2	Small-Pox	...	...	...	...	—	—
3	Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—
4	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	1
6	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—
7	Influenza	...	...	...	...	2	4
8	Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	1	—
9	Meningococcal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	—	—
10	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	15	12
11	Other Tuberculous diseases	...	...	...	...	3	6
12	Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	...	...	19	24
13	Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—
14	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	—	—
15	Cerebral Haemorrhage, &c.	...	...	...	...	9	9
16	Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	23	26
17	Arterio-sclerosis	...	...	...	...	8	5
18	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	6	7
19	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	6	9
20	Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	4	3
21	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	...	...	—	—
22	Diarrhoea, &c. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	2	—
23	Appendicitis and typhlitis	...	...	...	...	1	1
24	Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	3	—
25	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	...	5	4
26	Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	—	1
27	Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	...	...	...	...	—	2
28	Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	9	5
29	Suicide	...	...	...	...	1	1
30	Other Deaths from Violence	...	...	...	...	8	3
31	Other Defined Diseases	...	...	...	...	25	31
32	Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	—	—
All Causes						150	154
Special Causes (included above)						—	—
	Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—	—
	Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	—	—
Deaths of Infants under 1 year						Total Illegitimate	11 1
Total Births						243	198
Legitimate						226	189
Illegitimate						17	9
Population						28,080	

## Natural and Social Conditions of the Area.

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### **Area, Physical Features and General Character of the district.**

The Borough of Margate extends over an area of 2,961 acres, which includes 468 acres of foreshore. The town follows the coast line, which faces north-east, north and north-west. Situated at the north-east corner of Kent, it is exposed to sea breezes from all quarters except the west. The subsoil is chalk, and the town is divided by two valleys, viz., the Dane and Tivoli valleys. Owing to these valleys and to the general undulations of the ground levels, it is a notable fact that even after the heaviest rainfall the roads become dry in a very short period of time. The amount of vegetation in the town and neighbourhood is very limited. The streets, except in the lower and older parts of the town, are well laid out, and there are numerous large open spaces; the sea breezes are thus able to circulate freely in all parts of the town. To the above factors may be attributed the noted dryness of the climate of Margate and its health-giving qualities. It is not improbable that the large area of foreshore (468 acres), with its sand and seaweed-covered rocks, may also materially add to the salubrity of the air when the wind sets in from the sea.

**Population.** The population of Margate at the census in June, 1921, was 46,575, which, owing to the number of visitors in the town at the time the census was taken, was subsequently amended by the Registrar General to 27,740.

It is always difficult to estimate the increase in population of a health resort with any degree of accuracy. In Margate there has been a relatively large increase in the number of houses during the past few years, and the town has extended considerably both east and west. Also for a large part of the year, owing to the influx of invalids and visitors, the population is manifestly 10% to 20% higher than the official estimate, and for a short period during the year undoubtedly exceeds 100,000.

In view of the above I consider that the figure 27,740 shows too great a reduction in our estimated population, especially when it is taken into consideration that at the 1911 census the number was 27,086 and that in 1913 the boundary of the Borough was extended to include a large part of Garlinge and Northdown.

In my opinion, therefore, I think that our estimated population for 1921 should have been placed somewhere about 30,000.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population for 1925 is 28,080.

**Inhabited Houses.** The number of inhabited houses in 1921 was 5,159, and the number of families or separate occupiers 5,888.

**Rateable Value.** The rateable value of the town in 1925 was £319,913, and the sum represented by a penny rate equalled £1,325.

**Out-Relief.** I am informed that the Guardians issued the sum of £1,470 17s. 7d. in out-relief.

**Social Conditions.** Owing to the fact that Margate is a health and pleasure resort, the occupation of the great majority of the inhabitants is directly or indirectly associated with the catering for visitors to the town. A large proportion of the houses of all sizes are used in the season as lodging houses or boarding houses. In many of the smaller houses there is, unfortunately, during five or six weeks in the year, a tendency to overcrowding; the ill-effects of this are probably to some extent mitigated by the bracing air and the fact that during the greater part of the day the visitors are enjoying themselves on the sea front. It is unquestionable, however, that the health of young Margate children suffers owing to the inability of their parents to give them proper attention during the rush of the season. Outside the building trades there are no special industries of note.

Rents of all classes of houses are comparatively high, and on the whole these houses are well constructed and have ample air space.

There is still a great demand among the working classes for small cottages, and it will be a good thing for the health of the rising generation when it is possible to provide cottages at such a rent as will enable work people to live in them without the need of adding to their income by letting lodgings in the season.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

**Birth Rate.** The number of Births registered during the year was 243 males and 198 females, total 441, which is equivalent to a Birth Rate of 15·7 per 1,000.

**Death Rate.** The number of deaths registered during the same period was 150 males and 154 females, total 304, which is equivalent to a Death Rate of 10·8 per 1,000.

**Infantile Mortality.** The number of infants who died under one year of age was 11 males and 7 females, total 18, which is equivalent to an Infantile Mortality Rate of 40·8 per 1,000 births.

It will be noticed that the birth and death rates have varied very little during the last five years, but the Infantile Mortality Rate has declined from 68 in 1920 to 40·8 in 1925 per 1,000 births.

I am glad to say that the health of the Borough has, on the whole, been exceptionally good during the year.

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

**Hospitals.** With the exception of the Fever Hospital, there are no hospitals in the town provided or subsidised by the Local Authority. The County Council, however, send patients who are suffering from surgical tuberculosis and who are recommended by the tuberculosis officers to the Victoria Home and the Royal Sea Bathing Hospital. The Royal Sea Bathing Hospital has accommodation for 266 patients, and the Victoria Home for 54. Both hospitals are situated in Canterbury Road.

The Fever Hospital is situated at Haine, about two miles from Margate, and is provided conjointly by the Margate, Ramsgate, Broadstairs and Isle of Thanet (Rural) Authorities. There is now accommodation for about 93 patients. A new cubicle block, containing eight rooms, was completed and opened in October, 1924.

A Small-pox Hospital is situated on a separate site adjoining the above, and is capable of accommodating 16 patients.

The Margate Cottage Hospital, situated in Victoria Road, is entirely supported by voluntary contributions, and has accommodation for 30 patients. The Hospital is used principally for surgical and accident cases. Children are also admitted, and complicated cases of midwifery.

There is no institution in the town for unmarried mothers, but patients requiring a temporary home can sometimes be accommodated at Ramsgate.

**Ambulance Facilities.** The Joint Hospital Board provides a Motor Ambulance for the conveyance of infectious cases to the Isolation Hospital. For non-infectious and accident cases, a Motor Ambulance is provided by the Margate Ambulance Corps, a voluntary body which does most useful and creditable work in the town.

## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, St. Peter's Footpath, Margate.	For consultation and treatment. Open on Tuesday and Thursday from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.	Provided by the Margate Corporation.
The School Clinic, Victoria Road, Margate.	For the treatment of minor ailments in children attending the Elementary Schools, Dental Treatment, Eyesight Testing and for operations for enlarged tonsils and adenoids.	Provided by the Margate Corporation.

Tuberculosis Dispensary, Eton House, St. Peter's Road, Margate.	Open every Friday at 2 p.m.	Provided by the Kent County Council.
Venereal Clinic, Eton House, St. Peter's Road, Margate.	Open every Tuesday, Females, 2—4 p.m. ; Males, 5—7 p.m.	Provided by the Kent County Council.

There are no day nurseries in the town.

**Health Department Staff.** Contributions under the Public Health Acts and by Exchequer grants are made towards the salaries of the Medical Officer of Health and the Chief Sanitary Inspector. All the Officers on the staff of the Public Health Department are whole-time officials and consist of the following :—

Rowan McCombe, F.R.S.C.I., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health. School Medical Officer. Police Surgeon.
*John Rattray, A.R.S.I.	Chief Sanitary Inspector. Inspector under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act. Inspector under the Rats and Mice Destruction Act.
*J. W. Bromley, Cert. R.S.I.	Assistant Sanitary Inspector.
Mrs. H. Fowler, A.R.S.I.	Assistant Sanitary Inspector.
Miss E. Green, C.M.B.	Health Visitor.
L. Hutchinson.	Clerk.
W. Epps.	Disinfector.

\*Inspectors of meat and other foods.

**Professional Nursing in the Home.** As regards general nursing, this is carried out by a voluntary Association which provides two nurses. These nurses are available for any patient who is recommended by the doctor in attendance. No payment is made to the Association by the Local Authority.

**Midwives.** There are four Midwives practising in the town, two municipal and two in private practice. The salaries of the Municipal Midwives are paid by the Town Council, and the fees received from their patients are paid back into the Borough Fund. The Municipal Midwives occupy their spare time in

ante-natal visiting. This is particularly necessary in first confinements and where premature or still-births have been known to occur. I hope it may have the effect of reducing the number of premature births, which is the chief factor in infantile mortality.

**Chemical Work.** The chemical work for the Borough is carried out by our Public Analyst, Mr. Ernest M. Hawkins, F.I.C., of Canterbury. No important analyses in relation to Public Health were made during the years under survey with the exception of the Public Water Supply.

LIST OF BYE-LAWS, REGULATIONS, LOCAL ACTS AND  
ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE IN THE BOROUGH OF  
MARGATE.

	Date of operation or confirmation.
New Streets and Buildings, and Drainage of Existing Buildings (P.H. Act, 1875, s. 157, and P.H.A.A. Act, 1890, s. 23).	7th July, 1924.
Nuisance in connection with the removal of Offensive or Noxious Matters (P.H.A.A. Act, 1890, s. 26) ... ...	11th January, 1900.
Prevention of Nuisances arising from snow, filth, rubbish and the keeping of animals (P.H. Act, 1875, s. 44) ...	17th December, 1900.
Removal of House Refuse (P.H. Act, 1875, s. 44) ... ... ...	10th August, 1900.
Slaughter Houses (P.H. Act, 1875, s. 169)	6th June, 1901.
Common Lodging Houses (P.H. Act, 1875, s. 80) ... ... ... ...	6th June, 1901.
Houses Let in Lodgings (H. & T. P. Act, 1919, s. 26, and P.H. Act, 1875, s. 90)	26th September, 1920.
Management of Mortuary (P.H. Act, 1875, s. 141) ... ... ...	12th February, 1898.
Decent Conduct of Persons using Public Conveniences (P.H.A.A. Act, 1890, s. 20) ... ... ... ...	23rd September, 1899.
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc. [H.W.C. Act, 1875, (2)] ... ... ... ...	30th January, 1901,
Offensive trades (P.H. Act. 1875, s. 113) ...	21st April, 1921.
Regulations under Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order, 1885 ... ...	1st March, 1901.
Regulations for the removal to hospital of persons brought within the Borough by any ship or boat who are infected with a dangerous infectious disease (P.H. Act, 1875, s. 125) ... ...	22nd June, 1906.

Provision of means of escape from fire in certain factories and workshops (F. and W. Act, 1901, s. 15) ... ...	24th May, 1911.
Margate Extension and Improvement Act, 1877 ... ... ...	6th August, 1877.
Margate Corporation Act, 1900 ... ...	6th August, 1900.
Margate Corporation Water Act, 1902 ...	8th August, 1902.
Margate Corporation Act, 1908 ... ...	1st August, 1908.
Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890	2nd March, 1891.
Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890 (Parts II, III, IV, V) ... ...	2nd March, 1891.
Private Street Works Act, 1892 ... ...	1st July, 1894.
Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907 (Parts IV, V, VIII, IX, X and certain sections of parts II, III and VII	9th October, 1908.
Notification of Births Act, 1907 ... ...	16th November, 1908.
Public Libraries Act, 1919... ... ...	15th February, 1923.

## Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

**Water.** The supply of water is obtained from a pumping station the property of the Margate Corporation, which is situate at Wingham, about 14 miles south-west of Margate and about half way between Sandwich and Canterbury. The works were inaugurated in 1903, and consisted of a deep well, with connecting tunnels in the chalk strata, and pumping station built over the well. The catchment area extends from Wingham to the Dover-Canterbury road. The watershed is composed of a layer of mould overlaying the upper chalk, the highest point being about 300 feet above Ordnance Datum, and the lowest point about 50 feet above Ordnance Datum; Ordnance Datum being mean sea level at Liverpool. The catchment area is sparsely populated agricultural land with a fair proportion of woodland, and is consequently ideal from a water gathering point of view. The original pumping plant consisted of two sets of pumping engines, each capable of delivering about 2,000,000 gallons of water per day to Margate through an 18in. diameter pumping main, and which has two termini, one at Victoria Road, Margate, where it is connected to a pre-existing high level tank, and the other at Fleete, to the south of Margate, where is situate a storage reservoir, capacity 1,000,000 gallons.

- The pumping station and original equipment comprised, in addition to the aforesaid pumping engines, two high level outside area pumps, two Badcock steam boilers, two donkey pumps, economiser and engine, workshops, stores, coal store, engineer's residence, board room, and cottages for the workmen.

The above described pumping machinery sufficed until about 1913, when it was decided to put down additional plant, which was ordered and partially constructed when war broke out, with the result that the work was not completed until 1920. This additional plant comprised a new engine house, one marine type pumping engine capable of delivering 3,500,000 to 4,000,000 gallons per day to a height of 430 feet, one high level outside area pump capable of delivering 230,000 gallons per day to a height of 275 feet, feed pump, condenser plant, etc. The cost of the original scheme was about £120,000, and included mains to 21 outside parishes, which are dependent upon the same supply.

The new pumping station and pumping engines cost about £26,000. During the past year an additional tunnel has been driven for a length of 3,150 feet, the size being 6ft. 6in. in height by 6ft. in width. The original tunnels are 6ft. in height by 3ft. in width. The total length of tunnel to date being 6,705 feet, the total dependable quantity of water obtainable is about 5,000,000 gallons per day. The maximum quantity of water pumped in any one day to Margate and other dependable areas being about 3,250,000 gallons. The outside area supplied extends to a distance of about ten miles south-east of Canterbury and, in addition, Broadstairs takes supplementary water under agreement entered into as far back as 1907 and renewed in 1923.

It will therefore be seen that the resources are ample for some years to come. In fact, before the time arrives to extend the works at Wingham, it will be necessary to duplicate the existing pumping main, which has a safe economic carrying capacity of 3,500,000 to 4,000,000 gallons per day. Above that quantity the pressure in the main increases at a very high rate and, consequently, pumping costs rise proportionately. The total quantity of water pumped during the year 1925 was about 730,026,767 gallons, or a daily average of 2,000,073 gallons, the difference between average and maximum quantities being due to the large influx of visitors at the height of the summer season.

Quite recently a scheme for an additional storage reservoir at Fleet was approved by the Town Council and has been sanctioned by Ministry of Health. The reservoir is to be built in mass concrete and of a capacity of 2,000,000 gallons. Further, it has been decided to instal an additional high-pressure steam boiler. It will thus be seen that the works are up-to-date, in fact, the new large pumping engine is one of the most economical steam engines in existence, the steam consumption being less than 12 pounds per water horse-power per hour, a really fine achievement and of which the Corporation and the makers, Messrs. Hathorn Davey, of Leeds, are naturally proud,

In addition to the above, the available works include a pumping station and two sets of pumps at the Dane Pumping Station in Margate, which has not been used since 1903, and is simply retained as a stand-by station in case of need, which, fortunately, has not arisen; also low level tank at Margate, high level tank at Adisham, near Canterbury, low level reservoir at Wingham and about fifty miles of subsidiary water mains in the outlying districts, and about fifty miles of mains in the Margate water area.

Since 1902 the Corporation have expended about £200,000 on water works, and to-day the position with relation to that branch of public service is highly satisfactory, both from a quality point of view and also quantity.

The importance of a pure and sufficient water supply in a town cannot be over-estimated, and the latest examination—taken at about the most favourable time of the year for surface percolation—is very satisfactory indeed. It will also be noticed by comparing the present analysis with previous years that the chemical composition of the water varies very little from year to year, almost negligible, and there is no tendency to any plumbago solvent action.

Six samples of Water were sent for Bacteriological Examination during the year.

#### BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF THE MARGATE WATER SUPPLY.

Taken from the tap at 12 Grosvenor Place, Margate, on  
25th November, 1925.

##### **Physical :—**

Appearance in Two-foot Tube ...	...	...	Clear and bright.
Suspended matter ...	...	...	Nil.
Deposit ...	...	...	Nil.
Re-action ...	...	...	Neutral.
Temperature ...	...	...	13°C.

##### **Bacteriological :—**

###### **1. Quantitive Examination of Micro-Organisms :—**

One cubic centimetre of the water, added to gelatin plates and incubated for 72 hours at a temperature of 22°C, yielded the growth of 7 bacteria only. Two cubic centimetres of the water, added to agar plates and incubated for 24 hours at a temperature of 37°C, yielded the growth of a single organism.

###### **2. Qualitative Examination of Micro-Organisms :—**

Sixty cubic centimetres of the water were examined for bacteria whose presence would indicate recent surface pollution. This quantity of the water was free from any bacteria of the *Bacillus coli* group, and was free from any other organisms of a "suspicious" character.

The organisms found in the water were all of a saprophytic nature.

**Remarks :—**

This sample of water was of the same unexceptionable character as the sample received on the 15th July last, and the result of the examination shows that there was not any surface contamination of the supply at the time when the sample was taken.

(Signed) ALEX. G. R. FOULERTON,

F.R.C.S., D.P.H., F.C.S.

1st December, 1925.

**CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF WATER.**

Taken on 22nd December, 1925, from tap at 12 Grosvenor Place, Margate.

*N.B.—All numerical results expressed in grains per gallon.*

Appearance	...	...	...	...	Clear.
Colour	...	...	...	...	Green-blue.
Smell	...	...	...	...	None.
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	...	...	...	1.61.
Phospheric Acid in Phosphates					None.
Nitrogen in Nitrates	...	...	...	...	0.48.
Ammonia	...	...	...	...	None.
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	...	0.0017.
Oxygen absorbed in 15 minutes	...	...	...	...	Trace only.
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours	...	...	...	...	0.020.
Hardness before boiling (total)	...	...	...	...	18.0
Hardness after boiling (permanent)	...	...	...	...	3.4.
Total Solid Matter	...	...	...	...	27.16.
Microscopical Examination of Deposit					Very slight and unimportant.
Chlorine as "Salt"	...	...	...	...	2.65.

**Remarks :—**

The above results are very satisfactory, and indicate water organically pure and free from sewage percolation. The Microscopical Examination is also satisfactory.

(Signed) ERNEST M. HAWKINS,

Public Analyst, Borough of Margate.

**Drainage and Sewerage.**

The original drainage scheme was carried out in the year 1889 at a cost of about £80,000. This scheme barely sufficed until about 1902, when it became apparent that extensions and enlargements were necessary. The town is drained partly by gravitation and partly by pumping operations.

The original pumping plant consisted of two high-pressure hydraulic pumps at Tivoli Works, and eight smaller hydraulic pumps fixed in four underground stations scattered in the lower level areas.

The whole of the hydraulic pumping system has been abolished owing to the increased quantities of sewage to be pumped and the excessive cost of that system of pumping. At the present time the whole of the low level sewage gravitates to one main pumping station situate at King Street. Here are installed two sets of Town's gas-

driven treble rain pumps, each set capable of lifting 400 gallons per minute. One electrically-operated pump, with lifting capacity of 1,000 gallons per minute, and three electrically-operated pumping units, each capable of lifting 400 gallons per minute, complete the plant at this station.

The abolition of the hydraulic system of pumping and the installation of the gas and electrically actuated plant has resulted in an annual saving in pumping costs, viz., fuel, current and labour, of at least £1,000, combined with which the system is capable of dealing with a very much larger flow of sewage than hitherto. In addition to the above, many large main and intercepting sewers have been laid down, and a new pumping station at the sea outfall works has been built with engine and pump capable of delivering 14,000 gallons of screened sewage per minute. The sewage is pumped into the deep sea 600 yards from the cliff when the tide is racing out to the North Sea. The amount of sewage approximates to the water supply during dry weather, but in storm time as much as twenty times the dry weather flow has to be dealt with.

Generally speaking, the drainage of the town has been remodelled during the past few years. With an ever increasing population, including visitors, the problem of efficient sewage disposal is ever present, and the Health Committee is alive to the importance of the matter, and no stone is left unturned to maintain in the highest state of efficiency the whole system of drainage, which forms such an important factor in the life and well-being of an up-to-date seaside health resort. In fact, it is safe to say that no town on the coast has better facilities for disposing of its sewage in such a manner as obtains at Margate, and no town is better sewered. The whole of the pumping plant is modern and efficient, and flooding, which has been an experience of the past, now no longer occurs. As the town grows, so large main sewers are put down and machinery installed to cope with the ever increasing amount of sewage to be dealt with.

**Closet Accommodation.** The water carriage system has been universal in the Borough for many years. The majority of the pans are on the washdown principle, and for small cottage property the short hopper pan is mostly in use. There are a few cottages in a remote part of the district which are using pail closets, and in the near future it is proposed to lay sewers in this area and these closets will be converted into the water carriage system when the drainage is available.

**Scavenging.** The whole of the house refuse in the town is collected and carted away by mid-day. In some parts of the town the collection is made daily, and in other parts three times a week. This work is carried out by means of horse-drawn vehicles, steam waggons and trailers.

The Corporation Refuse Destructor, which was erected in 1912, is situate well away from the town and, consequently, there is no cause for complaint of the destructor. The whole of the refuse is burnt and the

by-products are used in various ways, such as in the manufacture of tar macadam, asphalte, paving slabs, curb stones, disinfectant powder, &c. Electrical power is generated for lighting the destructor buildings and driving machinery, and steam for driving the necessary engines and plant, so there is practically no waste, and as far as the house refuse disposal goes, Margate is well to the front.

**Baths.** With reference to baths, the Council have decided to erect a Bathing Establishment in Victoria Road, to be provided with 48 hot or cold slipper baths for males and females. The scheme has already received the approval of the Ministry of Health, and the construction will be commenced this year, so the urgent need of some form of public baths in the town will be met.

*I am much indebted to the Borough Engineer and Surveyor, Mr. E. A. Borg, for much of the above information.*

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*The information contained in this part of the Report has been prepared by the Chief Sanitary Inspector.*

## Sanitary Inspection of the District.

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### INSPECTIONS.

No. of Dwelling Houses inspected under Public Health Acts ...	...	...	...	...	1983
No. of Dwelling Houses inspected under Housing Acts ...	...	...	...	...	222
No. of Houses inspected <i>re</i> Infectious Diseases ...					591
House to House inspection with regard to Dust Receptacles ...	...	...	...	...	548
Houses let in Lodgings ...	...	...	...	...	36
Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces ...					253
Bakehouses ...	...	...	...	...	95
Cowsheds ...	...	...	...	...	51
Dairies and Milkshops ...	...	...	...	...	124
Slaughter Houses ...	...	...	...	...	1609
Offensive Trades ...	...	...	...	...	120
Ice Cream Premises...	...	...	...	...	87
Stables, Manure Pits, &c. ...	...	...	...	...	457
Premises where Animals were kept ...					39
Premises with regard to Rats ...	...	...	...	...	329
Schools ...	...	...	...	...	371
Courts, Back Roads, &c. ...	...	...	...	...	666
Shops and Food Stores ...	...	...	...	...	408

Restaurant Kitchens...	...	...	...	...	123
Places of Entertainment	...	...	...	...	19
Other inspections	...	...	...	...	969
Total Inspections	...	...	...	9100	
Total Re-inspections...	...	...	...	3214	

### NOTICES SERVED.

No. of Complaints received and investigated	...	290
No. of Notices and Letters sent with respect to matters requiring attention under the Public Health Acts, &c.	...	876
No. of Statutory Notices served	...	101
No. of Premises found to be in a defective condition	592	

### DESCRIPTION OF WORK CARRIED OUT.

#### *Houses.*

Improved	...	...	...	...	...	48
Cleansed and Limewashed	...	...	...	...	...	39
Bedding Cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	3
Yards Cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	30
Vermin eradicated	...	...	...	...	...	28
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	...	8
Use of underground rooms for sleeping discontinued						6
New Floors laid or repaired...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Plaster on Walls and Ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	52
Sash Frames repaired and Cords renewed	...	...	...	...	...	62
Kitchen Ranges or Coppers repaired or renewed...						20
Rain Water Pipes or Guttering repaired or renewed						48
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	68
New Sinks fixed	...	...	...	...	...	13
Waste Pipes trapped or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	33
Yards paved with cement concrete...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Yard Paving repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	20
Accumulations of Rubbish removed	...	...	...	...	...	33
Nuisance from the keeping of animals abated	...	...	...	...	...	13
Dirty Wallpaper stripped and Ceilings cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	37

#### *Dustbins.*

No. provided on service of Preliminary Notices	...	95
No. provided on service of Statutory Notices	...	82
No. provided by Local Authority in default of compliance with Statutory Notices and expenses recovered from owners	...	—

#### *Drainage.*

No. of Smoke Tests applied to drains	...	...	29
No. of Water Tests applied to new drains...	...	...	5
No. of Houses completely re-drained	...	...	4
No. of Houses where drainage was partly recon- structed	...	...	13

No. of Houses where defective drains were repaired	6
New Inspection Chambers built	14
Drains ventilated	2
New Gullies fixed	23
Defective Soil and Vent pipes repaired or renewed	20
Drains unstopped and cleansed	49
Cesspools abolished	3
Urinals cleansed and limewashed	5
Offensive and Insanitary Urinals reconstructed	2

*Water Closets.*

Reconstructed	6
Repaired	29
New Water Closets erected...	6
Wash Down W.C. Pans provided	30
New Cisterns fixed	32
Cisterns repaired and put into proper order	27
Flush Pipes fixed or renewed	12
Water Services repairs	17
W.C.'s cleansed and limewashed	17

*Houses Let in Lodgings.*

Cleansed and limewashed	14
Sanitary defects remedied	2

*Bakehouses.*

Cleansed and limewashed	6
Improved	3
Ventilation provided...	1
Underground bakehouses discontinued	2
Miscellaneous...	2

*Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.*

Cleansed and limewashed	16
W.C.'s cleansed and limewashed	5
Sanitary accommodation provided	3
Ventilation provided...	3
Miscellaneous...	7

*Restaurants.*

Kitchens cleansed and limewashed...	4
Improved	1

*Butchers' Shops and other Food Stores.*

Cleansed and limewashed...	23
Insanitary premises abolished	1
Made to comply with Meat Regulations	14

*Ice Cream Premises.*

Cleansed and limewashed	1
Improved	5
Abolished	2
Floors drained	2

*Offensive Trades.*

## Fish friers:—

Cleansed and limewashed	...	...	...	1
Improved frying apparatus provided	...	...	...	3
Yard paving repaired	...	...	...	1
Premises improved	...	...	...	3
Bins provided	...	...	...	6

## Marine Stores:—

Accumulations removed	...	...	...	2
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*Cowsheds.*

Cleansed and limewashed	...	...	...	19
Cleanliness of cows improved	...	...	...	2

*Dairies and Milkshops.*

Provided with proper milk receptacles	...	...	...	15
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*Stables.*

Cleansed and limewashed	...	...	...	12
Manure pits provided	...	...	...	2
Accumulations of manure removed	...	...	...	15
Yards repaved	...	...	...	4

*Slaughter Houses.*

Cleansed and limewashed	...	...	...	51
Repaired	...	...	...	1
Reconstructed	...	...	...	1
Receptacles provided	...	...	...	7

*Rats Act.*

Premises treated	...	...	...	...	58
Lands treated	...	...	...	...	32

*Barges.*

Cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	1
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<i>Miscellaneous.</i>	...	...	...	...	...	35
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## DISINFECTION.

No. of Infected Houses disinfected	...	...	...	201
No. of Infected Rooms disinfected	...	...	...	287
No. of Houses disinfected after Consumption	...	...	...	41
No. of Rooms disinfected after Consumption	...	...	...	57

## No. of Articles disinfected:—

38 Beds.	626 Blankets.
250 Mattresses.	55 Bundles of Clothes.
167 Sheets.	11 Rugs.
403 Pillows.	34 Cushions.
73 Bolsters.	163 Miscellaneous.

Making a total of 1820.

## INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The following table shows the amount of unsound Food dealt with during the year :—

DESCRIPTION.	DISEASE.	TOTAL WEIGHT IN LBS.
<b>Unsound Meat.</b>		
6 Carcasses ...	Tuberculosis ...	4,604
5 Forequarters ...	„ „	1,257
1 Calf carcase ...	„ „	110
1 Lamb „ „	Suffocation ...	40
9 Pig carcases ...	Tuberculosis ...	934
1 „ „	Dropsy & emaciation	39
1 „ „	Inflammation ...	320
1 „ „	Urticaria ...	92
1 „ „	Swine Erysipelas ...	80
1 „ „	Strangulated Gut ...	80
4 Beasts' Heads and Offal ...	Tuberculosis ...	334
1 „ „	Actinomycosis ...	37
13 Beasts' Livers ...	Flukes ...	204 $\frac{1}{2}$
2 „ „	Echinococcus ...	22
1 „ „	Actinomycosis ...	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 „ Lungs ...	Echinococcus ...	16
2 Calves' Plucks ...	Inflammation ...	24
9 Pigs' Heads ...	Tuberculosis ...	112
10 „ Plucks ...	„ „	96 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 „ „	Inflammation ...	7
8 „ Livers ...	Cirrhosis ...	39 $\frac{1}{2}$
Beef ..	Unsound, Bruised and Heated ...	540 $\frac{1}{2}$
2 Kidney Knobs ...	Ditto ...	15 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pressed Beef ...	Unsound ...	10
Corned Beef ...	„ „	22
<b>Unsound Fish.</b>		
Prawns ...	Unsound ...	244
Crabs ...	„ „	80
Hake ...	„ „	70
<b>Various.</b>		
110 Eggs ...	„ „	14
Poultry ...	„ „	304
Fleed Cakes, Sausage Rolls, Pies, Patties	„ „	24
Total Weight		9,784 lbs.

Total weight of food destroyed--4tons, 7cwt. 1qr. 12lbs.

The amount of unsound Food surrendered and destroyed during the past five years has been as follows :—

1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
2,685 lbs.	1,107 lbs.	1,594 lbs.	2,086 lbs.	9,784 lbs.

## SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

During the year 120 samples of various Foods and Drugs were obtained and submitted to your Public Analyst, Mr. E. M. Hawkins, at Canterbury.

Description and number of samples:—

Nature of Sample.	Adulterated.	Genuine.	Informal.	Formal.	Total.
Beans (tinned) ...	—	1	1	—	1
Bread ...	—	1	1	—	1
Brawn ...	—	1	1	—	1
Butter ...	—	6	3	3	6
Camphorated Oil	1	2	2	1	3
Cocoa ...	—	1	1	—	1
Coffee ...	—	1	1	—	1
Cream ...	—	3	—	3	3
Cream of Tartar	—	2	2	—	2
Custard Powder...	—	1	1	—	1
Flour (self-raising)	—	2	2	—	2
Ground Ginger ...	—	1	1	—	1
Honey ...	—	2	2	—	2
Jam ...	—	1	1	—	1
Lard ...	—	3	3	—	3
Lime Juice ...	—	1	—	1	1
Margarine ...	—	5	—	5	5
Ice Cream...	—	1	1	—	1
Medicine ...	2	2	1	3	4
Milk ...	5	50	—	55	55
,, Skimmed ...	1	2	—	3	3
,, Condensed ...	—	1	1	—	1
Mustard ...	—	1	—	1	1
Olive Oil ...	2	—	1	1	2
Peas (tinned) ...	—	1	1	—	1
Pepper ...	—	1	1	—	1
Rice ...	—	2	2	—	2
Shrimp Paste ...	—	1	1	—	1
Sago ...	—	1	1	—	1
Sausage ...	—	3	3	—	3
Sausage Meat ...	—	2	2	—	2
Sponge Cakes ...	—	2	2	—	2
Tomatoes (tinned)	—	1	1	—	1
Vinegar ...	—	1	—	1	1
Whisky ...	—	3	—	3	3
 Totals ...	11	109	40	80	120

It will be seen from the above statement that 109 samples were reported to be genuine and 11 adulterated, which gives a percentage of 9.2 of adulteration.

## COWSHEDS, DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.

Total No. of Cowkeepers, Dairymen and Purveyors

of Milk in the Borough ... ... ... 101

Total No. of Registered Cowkeepers in the Borough 10

Total No. of Registered Cowkeepers who live  
outside the Borough... ... ... 3

The composition of the samples of Milk are given in the following table:—

No of. Sample.	Percentage Results.		Purchased during the month of:
	Milk Fat.	Non-Fatty Solids.	
1	3.48	9.34	JANUARY.
2	3.70	8.70	Average
3	4.00	9.26	Milk Fat
4	4.77	8.84	3.98 Non-Fatty Solids 9.03
11	3.15	8.85	FEBRUARY.
13	3.68	9.08	Average
14	3.02	8.84	Milk Fat
21	3.80	8.72	3.28 Non-Fatty Solids 8.92
22	3.88	8.82	MARCH.
27	3.48	8.81	Average
28	3.77	9.04	Milk Fat
29	3.18	9.07	3.62 Non-Fatty Solids 8.93
30	3.65	9.14	
33	3.58	8.75	APRIL.
34	3.58	9.00	Average
35	2.67	8.54	Milk Fat
36	3.08	8.95	3.22 Non-Fatty Solids 8.81
41	2.91	8.93	
47	2.30	8.91	JUNE.
51	3.03	8.71	Average
52	3.05	8.45	Milk Fat
53	2.94	8.68	3.18 Non-Fatty Solids 8.79
54	3.25	8.91	
55	3.42	8.82	
57	3.00	8.42	
58	2.76	9.06	
59	4.15	8.73	
60	4.60	8.85	
61	3.07	8.85	
62	2.95	9.07	
64	3.02	8.95	
65	3.03	8.67	AUGUST.
66	3.23	8.87	Average
67	3.14	8.81	Milk Fat
68	3.70	8.92	3.03 Non-Fatty Solids 8.86
69	3.40	8.85	
70	3.15	8.93	
71	3.86	9.21	
76	2.80	8.54	
87	3.45	8.79	SEPTEMBER.
88	3.38	8.65	Average
89	3.18	8.80	Milk Fat
90	3.40	9.05	3.35 Non-Fatty Solids 8.82
91	3.80	8.39	
92	3.82	8.42	NOVEMBER.
93	3.42	8.82	Average
94	4.15	8.96	Milk Fat
103	2.99	8.72	3.48 Non-Fatty Solids 8.84
104	3.40	9.23	
105	3.06	9.08	
106	3.25	9.14	
119	3.92	8.94	DECEMBER.
120	4.70	8.59	Average
121	3.42	8.94	Milk Fat
122	3.45	8.83	3.87 Non-Fatty Solids 8.82
Yearly Average	3.42	8.85	

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION REGARDING SAMPLES  
REPORTED NOT TO BE GENUINE.

No. of Samples.	Nature of Sample.	Results of Analysis.	Remarks.
24	Camphorated Oil ...	Deficient in Camphor 7% ... ...	Formal sample taken which proved to be genuine.
26	Olive Oil	Oil other than Olive Oil, 80% ... ...	Formal sample taken. See No. 31.
31	Olive Oil	Oil other than Olive Oil, 80% ... ...	Vendor appeared before Health Committee to give explanation. Warned.
35	Milk ...	Deficient in Fat 11% ...	Proceedings taken. Case dismissed.
41	Milk ...	Deficient in Fat 3% ...	No action taken.
42	Medicine	Deficient in Quinine 11% ... ...	Further sample taken. See No. 63.
47	Milk ...	Deficient in Fat 23% ...	Letter of Warning sent by Town Clerk.
58	Milk	Deficient in Fat 8% ...	No action taken.
63	Medicine	Deficient in Quinine 35% ... ...	Proceedings taken. Vendor fined £5 and £2 10s., Analyst's fee
76	Milk	Deficient in Fat 6% ...	Letter of Warning sent by Town Clerk.
77	Separated Milk	Added Water 14.5% ...	Proceedings taken. Vendor fined £5.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

During the year legal proceedings were taken in four instances including three cases under the Food & Drugs Acts, and one case under the Houses let in Lodgings bye-laws.

The results of the proceedings were as follows:—

The Vendor of a sample of Milk (No. 35). Case dismissed.

The Vendor of a sample of Medicine (No. 63) was fined £5 and £2 10s. Analyst's fees.

The Vendor of a sample of separated Milk (No. 77) was fined £5.

The Owner of two Houses let in Lodgings was fined £2 on each of four summonses for contravention of the Houses let in Lodgings bye-laws.

**TABLE I.**  
**Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.**

Premises.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries) ...	94	11	—
WORKSHOPS (Including Workshop Laundries)	278	5	—
WORKPLACES (Other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	55	10	—
Total ... ...	427	26	—

**TABLE II.**  
**Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.**

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			No. of Offences in respect to which Prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:</i>				
Want of Cleanliness ... ...	25	22	—	—
Want of Ventilation ... ...	3	3	—	—
Overcrowding ... ...	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors ...	1	1	—	—
Other Nuisances ... ...	22	20	—	—
<i>Sanitary accommodation:</i>				
Insufficient ... ...	3	3	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ...	—	—	—	—
Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshops Acts:</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses ... ...	1	1	—	—
Other offences ... ...	1	—	1	—
Total ... ...	56	50	1	—

## Registered Workshops.

Workshops on the Register at the end of the year.	Number.
Harness Maker ...	1
Builders ...	23
Bakers ...	9
Blacksmiths ...	5
Boatbuilders ...	1
Blindmakers ...	2
Bootmakers ...	25
Beer Bottlers ...	1
Cycle Works ...	6
Cabinet Makers ...	10
Chocolate Makers ...	1
Dressmakers ...	11
Watchmakers ...	10
Knitting ...	2
Optician ...	1
Ironmongers ...	3
Laundries ...	9
Musical Instrument Repairers ...	2
Milliners ...	11
Motor Engineers and Garages ...	23
Picture Framers ...	2
Photographers ...	7
Plumbers and Decorators ...	10
Stone Mason ...	1
Sign Writer ...	1
Tailors ...	17
Upholsterers ...	7
Bookbinder ...	1
Electrical Engineer ...	1
Restaurants ...	40
Ice Cream Powder Maker ...	1
Total number of Workshops on Register ...	244

## FORM "A"

Amount of Shipping entering the Port Sanitary District during the year 1925.

	No.	Tonnage.	No. Inspected.		No. reported to be defective.	No. of Orders issued.
			By the Medical Officer of Health.	By the Sanitary Inspector.		
Foreign :						
Steamers	17	2480	—	3	—	—
Motor*	7	688	—	2	—	—
Sailing	9	603	—	1	—	—
Fishing	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Foreign	33	3771	—	6	—	—
Coastwise :						
Steamers	52	7724	—	37	—	—
Motor*	39	3040	—	11	—	—
Sailing	162	10926	—	67	1	1
Fishing	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Coastwise...	253	21690	—	115	1	1
Total Foreign and Coastwise	286	25461	—	121	1	1

\*Includes mechanically propelled vessels other than steamers.

## FORM B.

Rats destroyed in 1925 ... Nil.

## FORM C.

Precautions against Plague in 1925 ... Nil.

## FORM D.

Vessels (other than those dealt with in Form C.) ... Nil.

The shipping entering the harbour consists chiefly of barges or small steamers which carry cargoes, mostly of coal, granite and building materials. A number of these vessels trade regularly to the town with coal from Goole.

There were no cases of infectious diseases reported during the last five years, and no action was necessary with regard to verminous persons or their belongings.

None of the ships inspected were found to be affected with rats and the vessels were generally found to be maintained in a clean and satisfactory condition.

**Smoke Abatement.** There are only seven chimney shafts in the district. The chief cause for complaint was of two chimneys belonging to hotels which emitted excessive quantities of smoke and caused a certain amount of nuisance and annoyance to visitors on the promenade. The inspector interviewed the Manager and suggested certain improvements. These were carried out and since then there has been no recurrence of the nuisance.

#### PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

##### **Houses Let in Lodgings.**

There are ten houses let in lodgings on the Register, and these have been maintained in markedly improved condition since legal proceedings were taken against the owners of two houses let in lodgings for failing to comply with the bye-laws.

**Offensive Trades.** There are two Marine Store Dealers within the Borough, and during the year the Watch Committee refused to renew one of the licences and granted instead a restricted licence for a period of three months.

There are ten Fish Friers. Two applications were granted during the year, and considerable improvement has been effected by the occupiers of the premises. Three shops have been entirely renovated and fitted with approved frying apparatus.

The bye-laws regulating offensive trades were approved on the 21st of April, 1921.

##### **Tents, Vans and Sheds.**

There are no permanent van or shed dwellers within the district, and small temporary camps held during the Summer have generally been maintained according to the requirements of the bye-laws respecting Tents, Vans and Sheds or Similar Structures, which were approved on the 30th January, 1901.

**Underground Sleeping Rooms.** A considerable number of basement rooms are used for sleeping purposes during the summer months only, but owing to the Housing shortage a number of underground rooms are used habitually for sleeping purposes which are not entirely satisfactory, and I consider that the time is now opportune for regulations to be made with respect to these rooms.

#### OTHER SANITARY CONDITIONS REQUIRING NOTICE.

##### **Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919.**

premises were made and advice and assistance was given to the occupiers as to the best methods of clearing their premises of rats; approved poisons and baits were supplied by the Department at cost price.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector is the responsible officer for the administration of this Act. A considerable amount of work was carried out in connection with the extermination of rats.

Three hundred and twenty-nine inspections of

premises were made and advice and assistance was given to the occupiers as to the best methods of clearing their premises of rats; approved poisons and baits were supplied by the Department at cost price.

Rat Week was held during November. Notices and circulars were sent to the occupiers of numerous premises as to their liability under the Act. The Inspector also arranged for the Corporation properties to be systematically treated by the rat-catcher and, as a result, the campaign was the means of a large number of rats being exterminated.

**Storage and Removal of Refuse.** A large amount of time was given to ensure that houses were provided with proper sanitary dustbins. Considerable difficulty has been experienced in the past owing to wood boxes, tubs and baskets being used as dust receptacles, and these, when placed outside the premises for removal of the refuse, give the streets a very untidy and insanitary appearance. It has also been found more difficult to get the occupiers to keep their dustbins moderately clean and free from smell. Two hundred and fifty three notices were served on occupiers and owners to provide proper dustbins where insanitary receptacles were used, and when these were found to be in a foul condition a leaflet was enclosed with the notice giving instructions as to how the dustbin should be kept so as to be in a sanitary condition.

**Rag Flock Act,  
1911.**

No samples were taken under this Act, but 12 inspections were made of premises.

**Sanitary Condition  
of Theatres, Music  
Halls, Cinemas, etc.**

The places of entertainment have been periodically inspected, and in most cases these have been found to be maintained in a satisfactory condition. In a few cases, however, it was necessary to draw the Manager's attention to various small defects, and these were at once rectified.

**Mortuary.** The Mortuary is situate in the Town Yard adjoining the Gas Works in King Street. Its situation leaves much to be desired, but unfortunately there is not another site in the vicinity which would be suitable for the erection of another building. The Mortuary has been improved and redecorated and has been maintained in a satisfactory state.

The number of bodies placed in the Mortuary during the year was 15.

**Disinfecting  
Station.**

The Disinfecting Station is situate in St. John's Road, in which a Manlove Alliot Steam Disinfecting Apparatus is installed for the disinfection of bedding and other articles. The

station has been entirely re-decorated and the apparatus overhauled. One disinfecter is engaged, and when the work is excessive it is necessary to obtain extra assistance.

## SCHOOLS.

The Sanitary Inspectress visits each school every week and reports to me any nuisance, uncleanliness or defect in the sanitary conditions. Sufficient lavatory basins and towels are provided at all the schools

with a copious supply of water for washing and drinking purposes. Children suffering from an infectious disease are notified to me by the Head Teachers or School Attendance Officer. They are excluded from school for the prescribed period (*cf. Memorandum on Closure of, and Exclusion from, School, 1925*); contacts are also excluded.

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## Housing.

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### **General Housing Conditions in the Area.**

The housing problem is one which particularly affects a town like Margate, owing to the fact that a large number of persons come into the town during the summer to find employment in

connection with the catering and entertaining of visitors, and after the season is over these persons, in a great many instances, remain in the town during the winter. As a result this causes the general housing condition to be somewhat unsatisfactory, and results in two or more families occupying one house.

During the years 1921 to 1925 the Corporation erected 206 houses on the Connaught, Addiscombe and Garlinge Estates, 48 of which were built during 1925. It is proposed to construct 150 houses on the Dane Valley Estate, and the Council have accepted tenders for the construction of 72 houses which are to be commenced in the immediate future.

During the same period 500 houses were built by private enterprise. These houses were mostly of the villa type and, with a few exceptions, were too expensive for members of the working classes.

### **Overcrowding.**

A large proportion of the houses in the town are used as lodging or boarding houses during the summer, which in some cases, results in overcrowding, especially during the height of the season. It is estimated that about 246 families who cannot obtain houses are permanently living in two or more rooms, and in a few cases these are overcrowded.

It is anticipated that the houses will shortly be erected on the Dane Valley Estate and will be the means of lessening the overcrowding to a certain extent.

### **Fitness of Houses.**

The general standard of the houses in the district is good, with the exception of those in the older parts of the town, and these latter cannot be effectually dealt with until the present housing shortage is solved.

The general character of defects found consisted chiefly of want of lighting and ventilation, defective roofs, damp walls, unpaved yards and lack of washing accommodation. In some cases these defects were due to the neglect of the tenants to inform the owners in the first place, resulting in matters becoming worse as time went on.

Action was taken under the Public Health Act and Housing Acts in a number of cases, and in the majority of these the owners carried out the necessary work without the necessity of statutory notices being served. There were six Closing Orders made during the year, but it is practically impossible to recommend the making of closing orders except in extreme cases, owing to the fact that the tenants who would be displaced would be unable to obtain alternative accommodation.

**Unhealthy Areas.** No complaints were received regarding unhealthy areas nor any action or recommendation made regarding the same.

**Bye-laws relating to Houses let in lodgings, and to Tents, Vans, and Sheds.**

The present bye-laws relating to houses let in lodgings received the approval of the Ministry of Health on the 26th September, 1920. Considerable difficulty was experienced in enforcing the provisions, and it was found necessary during the year to take proceedings against the owner of two houses let in lodgings, when a penalty was obtained in each case. Since these proceedings were taken a marked improvement has been effected in the standard of these houses.

## HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1925.

Number of houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total, including Nos. given separately under (b)	211
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :	
(1) By the Local Authority ... ... ...	48
(2) By other bodies or persons... ... ...	25

I. Unfit dwelling houses.

Inspection—

(1) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)...	... ...	2205
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... ... ... ...		189
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation		6

(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	78
2. Remedy of defects without Service of formal Notices.	
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... ... ... ... ...	97
3. Action under Statutory Powers.	
A. Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ... ... ... ...	3
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a) By owners ... ... ...	5
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ... ...	—
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close ... ... ... ...	—
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ... ...	23
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a) By owners ... ... ...	20
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—
C. Proceedings under sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925 :—	
(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders.	6
(2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	6

(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling houses having been rendered fit ... ... ... ... ... ... I  
 (4) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... I  
 (5) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... —

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## Inspection and Supervision of Food.

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### Milk Supply.

There are now 12 farms and cowsheds in the Borough, three of which provide milk that is sold outside the area and three cowkeepers outside the district produce milk and sell it retail in the town. The amount of milk produced in the Borough is very small compared with the main supply, most of it being brought into the town by rail, and a certain quantity delivered by road. In some cases the milk is collected from farms in the surrounding districts and special vehicles are kept for that purpose by the dairymen.

During the year 1925 three farms were discontinued owing to the sites being required for building purposes. Since 1921 one cowkeeper, in addition to the above, discontinued keeping cows. The cowsheds in the district were inspected on numerous occasions and a marked improvement has been effected in the general standard of cleanliness of the cows. I am glad to notice that nearly all the cowkeepers are taking a keen interest in striving to produce a clean milk.

A few of the cowsheds are not up to a proper standard of efficiency and are out of date. It is difficult to deal with these sheds because as the town expands these farms will eventually be required for building purposes, and in the opinion of the occupiers it would be futile to expend money in the erection of new sheds.

Average composition of samples taken for analysis :—

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Milk Fat...	3.49	3.51	3.50	3.27	3.42
Non-Fatty Solids	8.87	8.83	8.89	8.73	8.85

### Tubercular Milk and Tubercular Cattle.

Only two tubercular animals were certified during the year under the Contagious Diseases Animals Act and the Tuberculosis Order, 1925.

**Designated Milk.** During the year the following licences for the sale of milk under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923, viz:—five “Certified,” four Grade “A,” and two Pasteurised.

There were no refusals or revocations of licences during the year,

Six samples of milk were obtained under the Milk (Special Designations) Order 1923 as under :—

Designation.	Date sample taken.	Bacteria per c.cm.
“ Certified ”	19/2/25	10,200
”	21/4/25	1,220
”	25/6/25	11,900
”	29/7/25	5,300
”	12/11/25	1,070
”	29/12/25	20,500

**Meat.** There are 14 slaughter houses in the Borough, and these have been kept in a clean condition.

Some of the registered slaughter houses, however, are unsatisfactory owing to their close proximity to dwelling houses, and their general construction leaves much to be desired. The Chief and Assistant Sanitary Inspectors are both qualified Meat Inspectors, and visits are made to all slaughter houses as far as possible when slaughtering is carried out. This work entails a large amount of time owing to the slaughter houses being situated in different parts of the town. The work has been greatly facilitated by the introduction of the Public Health Meat Regulations, and the notices required to be given of intended slaughter have been vigorously enforced, with the result that a considerable increase of diseased meat was surrendered.

The following table shows the number of inspections of slaughter houses carried out during the past five years :—

1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
725	675	648	318	1,609

There are no arrangements made to carry out Part III of the Regulations (Meat Marking) owing to the lack of centralized slaughtering, and I hope, in the near future, that the question of a public abattoir will receive favourable consideration in order that slaughtering may be carried out in hygienic premises and all carcases thoroughly examined.

All the butchers' shops and stores were inspected and various alterations were suggested to the occupiers to make their premises comply with the Regulations, and the necessary work was carried out.

A considerable amount of difficulty is experienced during the summer months in carrying out the Regulations owing to the abnormal trade, when the shops become crowded and the meat has to be readily accessible. Every effort has been made by the trade generally to comply with the Regulations as far as practicable to prevent contamination of the meat.

Slaughter Houses.	In 1920.	In January, 1925.	In December, 1925.
Registered	...	7	7
Licensed	...	8	7
Total	...	15	14

(The Knackers Yard was discontinued in 1923.)

**Other Foods.** Six cwt. 2 qrs. 8 lbs. of food other than meat was voluntarily surrendered and destroyed as unfit for human food. All provision shops and stores were inspected and frequent visits were paid by the Inspectors where food was exposed for sale.

There are 38 bakehouses on the register, and of these 9 are underground. Two underground bakehouses were abolished during the year. The bakehouses were frequently inspected, and, as a rule, were in a satisfactory clean condition. One or two of the premises are of obsolete construction and require to be brought up-to-date.

Hotel and restaurant kitchens were inspected during the season and these were maintained generally in a satisfactory state. Special attention was given to all premises where ice cream was made and sold, and two premises were dealt with as unfit from a sanitary point of view.

**Sale of Food and Drugs Act.** The total number of samples taken during the year was 120. Of these 80 were formal samples, and the others were obtained informally. All the samples were submitted to the Public Analyst, Mr. E. M. Hawkins, at Canterbury, who reported that 109 were genuine and 11 not genuine.

The number of samples taken each year since 1920 is as follows:

Year.	Number.	Genuine.	Not Genuine.	Percentage not Genuine.	Prosecutions.
1921	120	113	7	5.8	0
1922	120	114	6	5	0
1923	120	113	7	5.8	1
1924	120	112	8	6.6	4
1925	120	109	11	9.2	3

A tabular statement of samples obtained and action taken will be found in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Public Health (Milk and Cream) Regulations, 1912 and 1917. Report for the year ended 31st December, 1925:—

1. Milk; and Cream not sold as Preserved Cream.

Number of samples examined for the presence of a preservative:

Milk	...	...	...	...	...	58
Cream	...	...	...	...	...	1

Number in which preservatives was reported to be present and percentage of preservative found in each sample:

Milk	...	...	...	...	...	0
Cream	...	...	...	...	...	0

2. Cream sold as Preserved Cream.

(a) Instances in which samples have been submitted for analysis to ascertain if the statements on the label as to preservatives were correct:

(i) Correct statements made	...	...	2
(ii) Statements incorrect	...	...	0
			—

(iii) Percentage of preservatives found in each sample ... 0·33% and 0·35%  
Percentage stated on statutory label  
0·4% in both cases.

(b) Determination made of Milk Fat in Cream sold as Preserved Cream.

(i) Above 35 per cent	...	...	...	2
(ii) Below 35 per cent	...	...	...	0
				—

(c) Instances where (apart from analysis) the requirements as to labelling or declaration of Preserved Cream in Article V (1) and the proviso in Article V (2) of the Regulations, have not been observed.

None.

(d) Particulars of each case in which the Regulations have not been complied with, and action taken.

Nil.

3. Thickening substances:—

Any evidence of their addition to Cream or to Preserved Cream. Nil.

4. Other observations:—

Nil.

## Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Diseases.

It will be noted that during 1921 and 1922 Scarlet Fever was rather prevalent in the town. This was practically the case all over the country. As I have mentioned on many previous occasions, on account of the mildness of this disease, sometimes merely a transient rash, the onset escapes notice, and once it has gained a foothold it is difficult to stamp out. This applies, of course, more to Schools and Institutions.

Diphtheria figures higher than usual during 1925 owing to a small outbreak among the children attending St. James's School, Garlinge, in the Autumn.

The following special report was submitted to the Health Committee, a copy of which was sent to the Ministry of Health:—

I beg to submit the following report on the recent outbreak of Diphtheria in Garlinge.

Altogether 22 children have been affected, 14 had been attending St. James' School, and six other cases were closely connected with these school children. The patients, as soon as the disease was recognized, were at once removed to the Isolation Hospital, and the contacts excluded from school. We made a special examination of the children in attendance at the school and five "carriers" were discovered, that is, children who were apparently well, but still capable of infecting others on account of the organism being present in their throat or nose.

When I discovered the probable source of infection I advised that the school be closed. This was done on Thursday, October 29th, for two weeks. The Sunday Schools also were closed. As a precautionary measure all Garlinge children attending schools in Margate were excluded temporarily.

The drains were tested, but no defects of any consequence were found. At the same time the school was thoroughly disinfected.

I also examined all men connected with the milk supply in Garlinge and took swabs. These all proved to be negative.

In my opinion the cause of the outbreak was due to one or two missed cases, and the number of infected children was aggravated by the overcrowding of the school.

I am deeply indebted to Mrs. Fowler for the keen interest she took in the matter and for her assistance in checking the outbreak.

The disease was of a mild type and there were no complications or deaths.

Practically all the cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria are sent to the Isolation Hospital, and delay has been reduced to a minimum owing to the use of a motor ambulance which is kept at the Hospital. Antitoxin is administered to all cases of Diphtheria on admission to the Hospital, and contacts are inoculated where the doctor in attendance thinks it desirable. Antitoxin is supplied free of cost in necessitous cases. After the removal of the patient, the room, bedding, etc., in the home are thoroughly disinfected, the room being treated by formalin spray and vapour and the bedding disinfected by steam at the Disinfecting Station. In fact, in all cases of notifiable infectious diseases this is carried out, and also after death in cases of cancer, tuberculosis or any poisonous disease.

Pathological and bacteriological examination of specimens are undertaken by the Kent County Council. This is very largely used by the practitioners in the town as the following table testifies :—

Nature of Examination.	Results:		
	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Examination of Diphtheria Swabs... ...	135	597	732
Widal reaction in cases of suspected Typhoid Fever ... ... ...	1	2	3
Sputum examination for Tubercl Bacilli ...	17	45	62
Examination of hairs for "Ringworm" parasite ... ... ...	2	—	2
Totals ...	155	644	799

It will be noted that, during 1925, 732 swabs were taken in respect of Diphtheria, so that evidently a pretty good search was made to detect and isolate "carriers."

Return cases are very infrequent, as no patient is allowed out of hospital until two negative swabs (taken at a week's interval) are obtained. Children attending the elementary schools are examined before returning to school.

So far no use has been made of the tests known as Schick and Dick tests for Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever respectively.

We have had no cases of Small Pox in the area and no primary or re-vaccinations have been made by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Small Pox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

We had 21 cases of Pneumonia notified. Except for statistical purposes I cannot see that any benefit has accrued from the notification of this disease.

We had no cases of Malaria, Dysentery or Trench Fever.

Non-notifiable infectious diseases, such as Measles, Whooping Cough, etc., are notified to me by the parents and school teachers. These cases are visited, as far as time will permit, by the Sanitary Inspectress or myself, and if a doctor is not in attendance advice is given as to the care of the patient, isolation, etc. Contacts are excluded from school according to the Regulations prescribed by the Board of Education.

During the Autumn of 1924 an interesting lecture on Cancer was given by the County Medical Officer. This lecture was very well attended and was most instructive.

There were no cases of locally contracted Anthrax or Rabies.

A Cleansing Station is situated in the Town Yard adjoining the Disinfecting Station, and is available for the disinfecting and cleansing of verminous persons and their belongings.

The following table shows the prevalence of Notifiable Infectious Diseases during the past five years.

			1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Small Pox	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	...	...	79	137	135	93	62	43
Diphtheria	...	...	75	63	52	26	25	67
Enteric Fever	...	...	2	2	10	3	6	1
Puerperal Fever	...	...	1	—	—	—	—	2
Pneumonia	...	...	35	17	19	9	16	21
Erysipelas	...	...	14	6	6	2	4	6
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	—	—	—	—	4	4
Tuberculosis :								
Pulmonary	...	...	92	59	51	71	56	75
Non-pulmonary	...	...	23	23	14	42	21	37
			321	307	287	246	194	256

#### Mortality from Cancer, Influenza, etc. :

			1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Cancer	...	...	39	35	45	44	48	43
Influenza	...	...	1	5	13	4	9	6
Heart Disease	...	...	43	47	35	47	43	49
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	26	36	18	30	22	27

## Notifiable Diseases during the year 1925.

DISEASE	Total Cases Notified.†	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths†
Small Pox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	43	35	—
Diphtheria	67	65	1
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	1	1	—
Puerperal Fever	2	1	—
Pneumonia	21	—	15
Other diseases generally notifiable :—			
Erysipelas	6	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	4	—	1
Tuberculosis :—			
Pulmonary	75	—	27
Non-pulmonary	37	—	9
Other diseases notifiable locally :—			
Nil.	—	—	—

† For analysis under age groups see separate tables.

## Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	CASES.			Vision Unimpaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.				
	Notified.	Treated.									
		At Home.	In Hospital.								
Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				

## TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	1	7	—	—	—	2
5	—	—	7	4	—	—	—	—
10	—	1	3	2	—	—	—	—
15	2	1	—	5	4	—	1	—
20	3	11	—	2	2	—	—	2
25	8	13	—	1	2	5	1	1
35	14	6	2	—	3	2	1	1
45	6	4	—	1	3	2	—	—
55	2	2	—	1	—	3	—	—
65 and upwards	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Total	36	39	13	24	15	12	3	6

Of the total 36 deaths from Tuberculosis, 6 cases were not notified.

## Deaths from Infectious Diseases occurring during 1925.

41

	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2	2 and under 3	3 and under 4	4 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 20	20 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and over
Small Pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including paratyphoid) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	—	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	3	4	3	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis:—												
(a) Pulmonary												
Males ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	1
Females ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5	1
Total ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	9	—
(b) Non-Pulmonary												
Males ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Females ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	—
Total ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	—
										2	2	—

## Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year 1925 in the Margate District.

# TABLE X.—Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the year 1925.

(Provisional Figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1925, while those for the towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1924. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns.

BIRTH-RATE per 1,000 Total Population.	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.										RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS.				PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.			
	All Causes.	Measles.	Small-pox.	Enteric Fever.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years).	Total Deaths under One Year.	Causes of Death certified by Regis- trationers.	Causes of Death certified by Regis- trationers.	Deceased of Doubtful Cause.	Deceased of Doubtful Cause.	Deceased of Doubtful Cause.	Deceased of Doubtful Cause.	
England and Wales ..	18.3	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.13	0.03	0.15	0.07	0.32	0.47	8.4	75	92.1	6.9	1.0			
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns, in- cluding London ..	18.8	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.17	0.03	0.18	0.09	0.30	0.43	10.8	79	92.1	7.3	0.6			
157 Smaller Towns (1921 Adjusted Populations 20,000—50,000) ...	18.3	11.2	0.01	0.00	0.15	0.02	0.14	0.06	0.31	0.38	7.6	74	93.0	5.9	1.1			
London ...	18.0	11.7	0.01	0.00	0.08	0.02	0.19	0.11	0.23	0.46	10.6	67	91.1	8.9	0.0			
<b>Margate</b> ...	15.7	10.8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.21	0.46	4.5	40	90.5	6.9	2.6			

## Maternity and Child Welfare.

---

Our present Maternity and Child Welfare Centre was opened in September, 1920. Before that date we had only the use of a room in Emmanuel Church House, which was quite inadequate. Our present accommodation is an Army hut capable of accommodating over 100 mothers and an equal number of babies and young children. There is also a weighing room, consulting room, kitchen, and playroom for the toddlers. An Army hut is not ideal for many reasons, but it would be an expensive undertaking to construct an alternative building of this size, and the hut offered the best proposition at the time.

The Centre is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3 to 5 o'clock, Thursdays being entirely devoted to the weighing of delicate children, who are being kept under special observation by the Medical Officer and Health Visitor.

The Medical Officer is always in attendance on Tuesdays, when consultations are held for expectant and nursing mothers and for children under five years of age. Short lectures or "talks" are also given each Tuesday by the Health Visitor or Medical Officer. The babies are weighed by a trained nurse and tea is provided by voluntary helpers. In addition, there is a stall for literature and one for needlework.

The Health Visitor visits all cases where the confinement is attended by a midwife, but in the case of doctors, discretion has to be used.

She also, as far as possible, keeps in touch with children until they reach school age, and every effort is made to induce periodical attendance at the Centre.

There are four practising midwives in the town, two municipal and two in private practice. The two municipal midwives are paid by the Borough Council and the fees received from their patients are refunded to the Borough Accountant at the end of each month. The midwives occupy their spare time in ante-natal visiting. The two midwives in private practice keep a Maternity Home, with beds principally for patients with moderate means. This has proved very useful in the past on account of the want of proper accommodation, viz., where a family has had to occupy one or two rooms. The Cottage Hospital is always available for complicated cases of midwifery and for children requiring operations.

The Canterbury Hospital has also helped me with Orthopædic cases when they arise.

There were three maternal deaths during the year and only nine during the last five years, as shown in the following table:—

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Puerperal Sepsis ... ... ...	—	—	2	—	1
Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition ...	1	2	1	—	2
Total ...	1	2	3	—	3

Investigation into the cause of maternal deaths and still births is made by the County Medical Officer.

The Infantile Mortality rate for the last five years has been as follows :—

1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
68	69	57	47	38	40

per 1,000 births.

It will be seen that there has been a steady decline in the Infant Mortality rate, which is due, perhaps not entirely, but certainly to a large extent to the education of the mothers at the Welfare Centre and the interest which is taken in the babies by all the workers. Dried milk is provided at cost price to nursing mothers and babies who attend the Centre, and in necessitous cases a certain amount is provided free. Cod liver oil and simple remedies are also provided free in necessitous cases. The Medical Officer is also School Medical Officer, so the whole scheme is intimately co-ordinated with the School Medical service.

The following table shows at a glance the amount of work carried out yearly at the Centre :—

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Total attendances of mothers ...	—	3321	3728	3604	3592
Total attendances of babies ...	—	3293	3570	3375	3647
Average attendance of mothers	79	66	78	75	75
Average attendance of babies...	86	65	74	70	76
No. of mothers on the books ...	438	406	424	450	402
No. of visits to babies and children under five years of age by the Health Visitor ...	3674	3581	3441	4322	3540
Average weekly consultations by the Medical Officer of Health ... ... ...	16	16	13	14	20
No. of weighings ... ... ...	—	2639	1649	1900	1834
No of babies weighed ... ...	—	345	210	243	240

In 1920 we had five cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum, and since that year only one case has been notified. This is a great improvement in our Midwifery Service. I am glad to say all the babies recovered without any impairment of vision.

We had one case of Puerperal Fever notified in 1920 and none again until 1925, when there were two cases. There were no deaths. The above figures only apply to cases actually occurring within the Borough.

We have only had two cases of Poliomyelitis during the last five years.

Other infectious diseases, such as Whooping Cough and Measles, are only notified by parents and teachers, so it is difficult to state the exact number of cases which occur annually.

## Meteorological Report, 1925.

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I beg to submit the following report of the Meteorological Observations taken in Margate during the year 1925.

The special features of what may be termed a normal year were the dry and brilliant weather of June, when no rain fell until the 19th, thus completing a rainless period of 23 days; and the cold season which lasted with little intermission from November 6th to December 26th, the remaining days of the year becoming much milder.

At a health resort like Margate the summer weather is of great importance to the thousands of visitors who come to the town for health and recreation. Those who were able to take their holidays early were very fortunate, for both June and July were fine months with good records of bright sunshine, and a rainfall below the normal, while the mean temperature was above the average, June being 0.4 degrees in excess, and July 1.4 degrees. August also was a fine month on the whole, there being only two heavy falls of rain during the day, viz.—on the 10th and 11th, amounting to .36in., the fall for the month being only  $1\frac{1}{4}$ in., or .68in. less than the normal. The temperature throughout the month was moderate and fairly even, the highest day reading being 78 degrees, and the lowest night 51 degrees, the same as in July. There were 170 hours of sunshine. September, which is generally a splendid month for this season of the year, proved most disappointing; it was wet and cold, although there was a moderate sunshine record of 147 hours. The temperature was nearly three degrees below the normal, while the rainfall reached 2.58in., or about as much in excess as August was below the average. October was the opposite of the previous month. The temperature was about as much in excess as September was deficient, and the rainfall was slightly above two inches, being .88in. below the average. The fine, mild weather, however, came too late to bring the benefit to the town that it would have done had it been a month earlier. The two remaining months were wet and cold, December having the large number of ten ground frosts. Thus the closing period of the year was in direct contrast to the opening one, when January had an excess temperature of 4 degrees and February 3.3 degrees.

The prevailing wind was, as usual, the south-west, and, taking the morning reading, it blew from that quarter on 75 days. January had the highest number, and this accounts for the month being so exceptionally mild. The north-west comes next, with a total of 50,

and this, with the north, was the prevailing wind in June, when the weather was so fine and bright. The following are the total for the year :—

CALM.	NNW.	N.	NNE.	NE.	ENE.	E.	ESE.	SE.
12	8	21	2	34	4	14	2	22
SSE.	S.	SSW.	SW.	WSW.	W.	WNW.	NW	
12	34	16	75	6	42	11	50	

The rainfall, with the exception of the three months of June, July and August, when there was a successive deficiency, was fairly well distributed. January was short by over half-an-inch, but February was a little in excess, and this process went on practically throughout the year, with the exception above mentioned, the total fall amounting to 20.80 ins. or about 2ins. below the average.

The sunshine record was good, reaching a total of 1,725 hours. May, June and July were well above the average, August and September being deficient. Although November and December were wet and cold, yet both months had more than the ordinary amount of sunshine, the former by nearly an hour a day and the latter by over half-an-hour daily.

The sunniest day was the 10th June, when 15.1 hours of sunshine were registered with a light north-easterly wind. Other bright days practically the same were the 4th, 9th and 11th, each with 14.9 hours.

Taking the year through, the weather at Margate compares favourably with that at most seaside towns round the coast.

The Station was inspected by Mr. R. M. Stanhope for the Meteorological Office of the Air Ministry on the 8th May, and all the instruments tested and found to be in good condition.

In concluding this report, I have to record my indebtedness to Messrs. Cleveland, of St. George's Hotel, for their continued courtesy and kindness in facilitating my daily duties connected with this work.

C. J. PEMBLE,

Meteorological Observer.

Meteorological Observations, 1925.

MONTH	TEMPERATURES.						RAINFALL.						SUNSHINE.			
	BARO-METER.		Absolute.		Mean.		Humidity.		1 ft.		4 ft.		Grass.		Days With	
	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	Mid.	Diff. from Av'ge.	Mm.	Inches.	mm.	mm.	mm.	mm.	mm.	mm.	Max. Fall. mm.	Days With
JAN.	30.12	56	34	47.7	39.2	43.5	+4.0	92	41.8	45.3	35.9	24	0.95	-18	6 3rd	13 59.4 18 8
FEB.	29.57	57	33	47.4	39.4	43.4	+3.3	83	42.3	44.9	35.8	55	2.17	+20	17 25th	18 85.2 24 1
MAR.	29.99	51	31	45.6	38.4	42.0	-0.5	86	42.1	44.2	36.0	26	1.03	-14	5 10th	12 117.8 25 3
APRIL	29.75	62	37	52.4	42.1	47.3	+0.4	84	47.9	47.2	38.9	45	1.78	+11	6 24th	16 156.7 24 -
MAY	29.73	80	41	60.8	48.6	54.7	+2.1	80	56.0	52.5	45.5	49	1.94	+ 9	16 23rd	15 251.8 28 -
JUNE	30.03	77	46	63.4	53.5	58.5	+0.4	81	63.2	60.0	50.0	13	0.49	-32	5 23rd	5 259.0 30 -
JULY	29.86	81	51	68.9	58.0	63.5	+1.4	78	67.1	63.3	54.0	39	1.55	-11	7 30th	16 222.4 28 -
AUG.	29.91	78	51	68.4	57.0	62.7	+0.6	79	65.0	63.9	54.0	32	1.25	-17	6 10th	14 169.6 29 -
SEPT.	29.92	70	44	61.0	51.1	56.1	-2.7	80	58.0	60.8	48.3	67	2.58	+16	21 20th	16 146.7 26 -
OCT.	29.85	71	39	58.6	50.0	54.3	+2.5	92	54.3	56.9	46.8	52	2.05	-22	15 19th	13 107.3 25 -
NOV.	29.80	64	30	46.9	40.3	43.6	-1.9	87	45.8	51.5	37.6	70	2.75	+ 9	8 10th	20 85.2 22 4
DEC.	29.64	56	26	43.4	36.7	40.1	-1.0	89	39.2	43.9	33.4	57	2.24	- 1	17 21st	16 63.6 17 10
	29.85	81	26	55.4	46.2	50.8	+0.7	84	51.9	52.9	43.0	528	20.80	-50	21, 20 Sept.	174 1725 296 26